

Message Text

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41

ACTION VO-03

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 SCA-01 CIAE-00 FBIE-00 INSE-00

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R 151020Z JUL 76

FM AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8858

C O N F I D E N T I A L BUCHAREST 4180

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: CVIS, DGEN, PINT, RO

SUBJ: NIV ISSUANCE TO ROMANIANS

REF: (A) STATE 032856 OF 1975

(B) CONSOFF PERKINS MEMORANDA OF JAN. 24,27,28, 1975

(C) SPIEGEL/WILLIAMS MEMCON OF JULY 12, 1976.

1. MFA CONSELOR DIRECTOR GHEORGHE BADESCU REQUESTED DCM AND CONSOFF FOR MEETING JULY 7, 1976. AS ADCM AND CONSOFF NOT AVAILABLE, TWO VICE CONSOFFS WENT TO MEETING, ATTENDED BY IOAN LOGHIN AND STELIAN MATEI. BADESCU PROPOSED SAME NIV ISSUANCE PROCEDURE MENTIONED IN REF'S AND REQUESTED SPEEDY RESPONSE. PROPOSED PROCEDURE WOULD CHANNEL ALL ROMANIAN NIV REQUESTS THROUGH OFFICE OF NATIONAL TOURISM (O.N.T.) EMBASSY WOULD PERIODICALLY RECEIVE LISTS OF APPLICANTS AND PASSPORTS FOR VISA APPROVAL AND ENTRY IN PASSPORTS. THERE WOULD BE NO EMBASSY CONTACT WITH ROMANIAN APPLICANTS. AS ONT "FRANCHISE" WOULD BE EXCLUSIVE. RESULTS ARE PERCEIVED SIMILAR TO THOSE OUTLINED IN PERKINS MEMORANDA: LESS EMBASSY CONTACT WITH ROMANIAN CITIZENRY, LOWER LEVEL OF NIV ISSUANCE FOR NON-OFFICIAL TRAVEL, AND MOST IMPORTANT, LOSS OF EMBASSY ABILITY TO INTERVENE IN NIV HUMANITARIAN CASES. GOR WOULD ALSO HAVE "LEG UP" TO REQUEST SIMILAR PROCEDURE FOR IV APPLICANTS WITH RESULTS GREATLY FAVORABLE TO GOR POSITION RE: IMMIGRATION, I.E. WHAT EMBASSY DOESN'T KNOW WON'T HURT GOR.

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2. CONSULS OR REP. FROM FRANCE, U.K., F.R.G. CALLED IN

SAME DAY FOR SAME PITCH. SWISS, BELGIANS, ITALIANS APPROACHED BY O.N.T. DIRECTLY, AS WE WERE THREE WEEKS AGO. MOST HAVE NOT YET REPLIED, MOST ARE CONSULTING THEIR MINISTRIES. ITALIANS REFUSED O.N.T. IMMEDIATELY. THUS PROBABLY AVOIDING BADESCU REQUEST. NOTE REQUEST MADE BY MFA TO EMBASSIES WITH GREATER NUMBER OF NIV CASES, A SIGNIFICANT INCREASE IN GOR PRIORITY. GENERAL INITIAL REACTION AMONG ALL WESTERN EMBASSIES IS NEGATIVE.

3. POST STRONGLY RECOMMENDS DEPARTMENT AUTHORIZATION TO DENY REQUEST ON SAME BASIS OF STATE REFTEL. WE WOULD LIKE TO TURN DOWN MFA QUICKLY, THOUGH AFTER CONSULTING WITH EMBASSIES PREVIOUSLY NOTED, THUS GIVING IMPRESSION WE DID NOT GIVE IT MUCH CONSIDERATION. THANK YOU.
SCISSORS

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